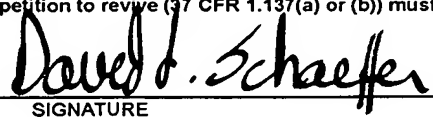


<b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371</b>		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER <b>126688/0139</b>
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. <b>PCT/US2004/002723</b>	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE <b>30 January 2004</b>	U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.51) Not Yet Assigned <b>10/543102</b> PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED <b>30 January 2003</b>
TITLE OF INVENTION <b>ARTICULATED SUPPORT ASSEMBLY</b>		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US <b>Theodore T. TARONE and Mario LACASSE</b>		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371. 3. <input type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below. 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31). 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). 6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto. b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. 8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). 9. <input type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). 10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).		
Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:		
11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. 13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment. 14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76. 15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. 16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney and/or change of address letter. 17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821- 1.825. 18. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: <b>International Search Report; PCT/IB/308; PCT/IB/304; PCT/RO/105</b>		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.414 and 1.491-1.492. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public, which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 15 minutes to complete, including gathering information, preparing, and submitting the completed form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5) <b>Not Yet Assigned</b> <b>10/543102</b>		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. <b>PCT/US2004/002723</b>		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER <b>126688/0139</b>	
The following fees have been submitted				CALCULATIONS	PTO USE ONLY
21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic national fee..... \$300				\$ 300.00	
22. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examination fee If International preliminary examination report prepared by USPTO and all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)..... \$100 All other situations..... \$200				\$ 200.00	
23. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Search fee Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) has been paid on the international application to the USPTO as an International Searching Authority..... \$100 International Search Report prepared and provided to the Office..... \$400 All other situations..... \$500				\$ 100.00	
TOTAL OF 21, 22 and 23 =				\$ 600.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.					
Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number)	RATE		
- 100 =	/50 =		x \$250	\$ 0.00	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(h)).				\$ 0.00	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	\$	
Total claims	14 - 20 =	-	x \$ 50	\$ 0.00	
Independent claims	1 - 3 =	-	x \$200	\$ 0.00	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+ \$360	\$ 0.00	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$ 600.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Fees above are reduced by 1/2.					
SUBTOTAL =				\$ 600.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(i)).				\$	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$ 600.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property				\$	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$ 600.00	
				Amount to be refunded:	\$
				Amount to be charged:	\$
<p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees is enclosed.</p> <p>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>19-4709</u> in the amount of \$ <u>600.00</u> to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>19-4709</u>. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</p>					
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status.					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:					
<b>Stroock &amp; Stroock &amp; Lavan LLP</b> <b>180 Maiden Lane</b> <b>New York, New York 10038</b> <b>Tel: (212) 806-6677</b> <b>Fax: (212) 806-6006</b>					
				 SIGNATURE <b>David L. Schaeffer</b> NAME <b>32,716</b> REGISTRATION NUMBER	

Docket No.  
126688/0139

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Theodore T. Tarone, et al.

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Application No.: PCT/US2004/002723

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: 30 January 2004

For: ARTICULATED SUPPORT ASSEMBLY

Date: July 22, 2005

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**  
**BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 C.F.R. § 1.10)**

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

I hereby certify that the following correspondence:

Return Postcard; Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated/Elected Office ... (PTO-1390);  
Application Data Sheet (2 pgs); Preliminary Amendment (4 pgs); Information Disclosure Statement (3  
pgs); PTO/SB/08a&b (2 pgs); International Search Report; copy of PCT appln. no.  
PCT/US2004/002723 (as-filed); copy of WO 2004/067046; PCT/IB/308; PCT/IB/304; PCT/RO/105;  
General Power of Attorney

is being deposited on July 22, 2005 with the United States Postal Service  
for "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" delivery under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 in an  
envelope bearing sufficient postage and addressed to:

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

David L. Schaeffer

(Typed Or Printed Name Of Person Mailing Correspondence)

*David L. Schaeffer*

(Signature Of Person Mailing Correspondence)

EV 102 921 265 US

("Express Mail" Mailing Label Number)

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE  
UNITED STATES RECEIVING OFFICE

Date	January 30, 2004
International Application No.	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket No.	126688/0071

I. Certification under 37 CFR 1.10 (if applicable)

EV 086 119 058 US	January 30, 2004
Express Mail mailing number	Date of Deposit

I hereby certify that the application/correspondence attached hereto is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signature of person mailing correspondence	David L. Schaeffer
	Typed or printed name of person mailing correspondence

II. ☐ New International Application

TITLE	ARTICULATED SUPPORT ASSEMBLY	Earliest priority date (Day/Month/Year)
		30/January/2003

SCREENING DISCLOSURE INFORMATION: In order to assist in screening the accompanying international application for purposes of determining whether a license for foreign transmittal should and could be granted and for other purposes, the following information is supplied. (Note: check as many boxes as apply):

A. ☐ The invention disclosed was not made in the United States.

B. ☐ There is no prior U.S. application relating to this invention.

C. ☒ The following prior U.S. application(s) contain subject matter which is related to the invention disclosed in the attached international application. (NOTE: priority to these applications may or may not be claimed on form PCT/RO/101 (Request) and this listing does not constitute a claim for priority.)

application no.	60/443,822	filed on	30/January/2003
application no.		filed on:	

D. ☐ The present international application contains additional subject matter not found in the prior U.S. application(s) identified in paragraph C. above. The additional subject matter is found on pages  and ☐ DOES NOT ALTER ☐ MIGHT BE CONSIDERED TO ALTER the general nature of the invention in a manner which would require the U.S. application to have been made available for inspection by the appropriate defense agencies under 35 U.S.C. 181 and 37 CFR 5.1. See 37 CFR 5.15.

III. ☐ A Response to an Invitation from the RO/US. The following document(s) is (are) enclosed:

A. ☐ A Request for An Extension of Time to File a Response

B. ☐ A Power of Attorney (General or Regular)

C. ☐ Replacement pages:

pages	of the request (PCT/RO/101)	pages	of the figures
pages	of the description	pages	of the abstract
pages	of the claims		

D. ☐ Submission of Priority Documents

Priority document	Priority document
-------------------	-------------------

E. ☐ Fees as specified on attached Fee Calculation sheet form PCT/RO/101 annex

IV. ☐ A Request for Rectification under PCT 91 ☐ A Petition ☐ A Sequence Listing Diskette

V. ☒ Other (please specify): Certificate of Mailing by "Express Mail"

The person signing this form is the:	<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant	David L. Schaeffer
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attorney/Agent (Reg. No.) 32,716	Typed name of signer
	<input type="checkbox"/> Common Representative	Signature

Docket No.  
126688/0071

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: C.R. Bard, Inc.

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: ARTICULATED SUPPORT ASSEMBLY

Date: January 30, 2004

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**  
**BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 C.F.R. § 1.10)**

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

I hereby certify that the following correspondence:

Return Postcard; Transmittal Letter to the United States Receiving Office (PTO-1382) (1 pg); PCT Request (4 pgs); PCT Fee Calculation Sheet (PCT/RO/101 (Annex)) (1 pg); Specification (10 pgs); Formal Drawings (2 sheets); PCT General Power of Attorney (1 pg - executed)

is being deposited on January 30, 2004 with the United States Postal Service for "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" delivery under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 in an envelope bearing sufficient postage and addressed to:

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

David L. Schaeffer

(Typed Or Printed Name Of Person Mailing Correspondence)

  
(Signature Of Person Mailing Correspondence)

EV 086 119 058 US

("Express Mail" Mailing Label Number)